

Assessing the effectiveness of mouthwashes against SARS-CoV-2 before dental procedures

Submission date 23/06/2021	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 24/06/2021	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 18/12/2023	Condition category Infections and Infestations	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

COVID-19 is a condition caused by the coronavirus (called SARS-CoV-2) that was first identified in late 2019. Dentistry is currently severely limited during the COVID-19 pandemic. Aerosol-generating dental procedures may spread the virus from asymptomatic COVID-positive patients. The COVID virus has been already shown to be present in saliva in significant quantities. Dental staff are currently protected through the use of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), but there are concerns about the safety of the next patient to enter the surgery, as there could theoretically be viable virus circulating in the air from the previous patient's procedure. As a result of this, patients are having difficulty or may be reluctant to access dental appointments and care, leading to a backlog of cases, the potential for oral health in the UK to suffer and many dental practices to become financially unviable or the cost of treatment to increase. This study hopes to address the problem by testing whether the SARS-Cov-2 virus can be made inactive before dental procedures.

A number of dentists have already suggested the idea of using mouthwashes to inactivate the virus, not only for dental procedures, but as part of a broader measure to help control the spread of the pandemic in the population. Pre-procedural mouthwashes have been in common use in dentistry for many years and have proven to reduce bacteria in aerosols although not viruses. An investigation has identified four commercially available mouthwashes in the laboratory setting. This study aims to develop this theory further by asking COVID-positive patients to provide saliva samples at timed intervals to test the effectiveness of various mouthwashes against the SARS-Cov-2 virus, and also the length of time they are effective for. It is important to know if the virus is still infective rather than just knowing its presence, so live culture of samples is necessary. It is not currently known how much virus is required to infect an individual.

Who can participate?

People over the age of 16 years who have had a positive COVID-19 test within the last 72 hours with mild to moderate symptoms of COVID-19

What does the study involve?

The study involves participants providing saliva samples before and after using a mouthwash (Orawise+, Listerine Total Care, Listerine Cool Mint) or a control solution (bottled water). Samples will be taken pre mouthwash, then at 1, 10, 30 and 60 minutes after using a mouthwash.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

There will be no benefit to the participant but the findings may benefit other patients in the future and help provide us with a better understanding of the SARS-Cov-2 virus.

Where is the study run from?

York Hospital (UK)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

July 2020 to June 2022

Who is funding the study?

Johnson & Johnson (USA)

Who is the main contact?

Mia Porteous

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Contact information

Type(s)

Public

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Additional identifiers

Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS)

Nil known

Integrated Research Application System (IRAS)

300106

ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT)

Nil known

Protocol serial number

IRAS 300106, CPMS 49628

Study information

Scientific Title

Investigating the effectiveness of oral antiseptic rinses on SARS-CoV-2 in-vivo - a randomised controlled trial

Study objectives

To test methods of mitigating the risk of SARS-CoV-2 in the dental setting by rendering it non-infective prior to procedures. The methods for investigation will be the use of a pre-procedural mouthwash.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Approved 14/06/2021, North of Scotland Research Ethics Committee (Summerfield House, 2 Eday Road, Aberdeen, AB15 6RE, UK; +44 (0)1224 558458; gram.nosres@nhs.scot), REC ref: 21/NS/0073

Study design

Single-centre interventional randomized controlled trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Prevention

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2 infection)

Interventions

Participants with a positive COVID test within the last 72 hours will be randomised to four types of mouthwash by a random number generator. The mouthwashes to be tested are as follows:

1. Orawise+ (hypochlorous acid)
2. Listerine Total Care (eucalyptol, thymol, menthol, sodium fluoride, zinc chloride)
3. Listerine Cool Mint (alcohol, eucalyptol, thymol, menthol)
4. Control group (bottled water)

Participants will be randomised to a mouthwash or the control group. Saliva samples will be collected prior to mouth washing (baseline), then at 1, 10, 30 and 60 minutes after mouth washing. These saliva samples will then be frozen and cultured for viable virus with Public Health England.

Intervention Type

Other

Primary outcome(s)

Levels of SARS-CoV-2 in saliva samples measured quantitatively by determining the 50% tissue culture infectious dose (TCID50) and the infectious virus titre in TCID50/ml, at baseline (pre-mouth washing) and 1, 10, 30 and 60 minutes after mouth washing

Key secondary outcome(s)

There are no secondary outcome measures

Completion date

16/06/2022

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. Participants aged over 16 years with a positive COVID-19 swab test in the last 72 hours
2. Participants will only be recruited if they are well enough, i.e. only showing mild to moderate symptoms/signs of COVID-19 infection

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Mixed

Sex

All

Total final enrolment

92

Key exclusion criteria

1. Refusal of consent
2. Participants known to be pregnant
3. Participants who have allergies to any of the mouthwashes used in the trial

Date of first enrolment

28/06/2021

Date of final enrolment

16/06/2022

Locations**Countries of recruitment**

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre

York Hospital

Wigginton Road

York

United Kingdom

YO31 8HE

Sponsor information**Organisation**

York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

ROR

<https://ror.org/027e4g787>

Funder(s)**Funder type**

Industry

Funder Name

Johnson and Johnson

Alternative Name(s)

Johnson & Johnson, Johnson & Johnson Services, Inc., Johnson&Johnson, Johnson & Johnson Private Limited, , , J&J, JNJ

Funding Body Type

Government organisation

Funding Body Subtype

For-profit companies (industry)

Location

United States of America

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The data-sharing plans for the current study are unknown and will be made available at a later date.

IPD sharing plan summary

Data sharing statement to be made available at a later date

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
HRA research summary	Participant information sheet		28/06/2023	No	No
Participant information sheet		11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes
Preprint results	version V9.0	13/10/2023	18/12/2023	No	No
Protocol file		14/06/2021	24/06/2021	No	No